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NO. 28.

BULLETIN OF FOREIGN PLANT INTRODUCTIONS.

Feb. 1 to 15, 1910.

NEW PLANT IMMIGRANTS.

ALYSICARPUS VAGINALIS. 26786. From Island of Guam. Presented by Mr. J. B. Thompson. "Native in India and perhaps throughout the Malayan region. Mr. Thompson finds it abundant in portions of the Philippine Islands and readily eaten by stock. In appearance it is very similar to alfalfa, and he thinks it has decided possibilities as a hay crop in the Philippines and similar regions where alfalfa does not thrive." (Piper.) For distribution later.

CANAVALIA ENSIFORMIS. 26647. Jack bean from Mayaguez, Porto Rico. Presented by Mr. D. W. May. "An upright variety grown in 1909 at Biloxi, Miss., Baton Rouge, La., and Gainesville, Fla. It makes a bushy plant 3-5 feet high, very different from other varieties. Seeds white." (Piper.)

CRATAEGUS. 26765. From Sebastopol, Crimea, Russia. Procured by Mr. Frank N. Meyer, Agricultural Explorer. "A hawthorn growing on dry stony places. Able to stand considerable drought, heat and neglect. Of value as an ornamental garden tree and as a stock for pears in hot, semi-arid regions." (Meyer.) For distribution later.

CYTISUS BIFLORUS. 26798. From Sarepta, Russia. Presented by Mr. W. von Arapow, Agronomist, of Samara, Russia. "This has been used somewhat in Europe as an ornamental but from its description it does not appear to be promising as a forage plant." (Ricker.)

DIOSPYROS KAKI. 26771-782. Twelve varieties of persimmon purchased from the Yokohama Nursery Co., Yokohama, Japan. For distribution later.

EUPATORIUM SP.(?) 26657. From Paraguay. Procured by Mr. Cornelius Ferris. "I think this is Caahu; the other name

is Yoyouvetima. The leaves are used for dyeing wool." For distribution later.

GARCINIA SP. 26659. Seeds from Medan, Sumatra. Presented by Dr. L. R. de Bussy. For distribution later.

GLYCINE HISPIDA. 26643-646. Four varieties of soybeans from Mukden, Manchuria. Presented by Mr. Nelson T. Johnson. 26643. Black. 26644. Olive brown. "These two varieties are used only as food for stock." 26645. Green. "This bean is used to make bean curd, an article of food much prized by the Chinese. The sprout of this bean is much liked." 26646. Yellow. "This bean forms the staple crop of Manchuria and is eaten by the natives in many ways. Oil is extracted from them and the residuum forms the bean cake of commerce which is used extensively in Japan for fertilizer." (Johnson.) For distribution later.

HIBISCUS SABDARIFFA. 26619-620. Two varieties of roselle grown at the Subtropical Garden, Miami, Fla. 26619. The seeds from which this variety was grown were obtained from the West Indies. The calyces are small and whitish in color. They are not used for jelly and jam on account of the lack of color, but are used in making a wine which has the color of champagne and is almost equal to it in taste. 26620. Victor. This variety was developed by selecting seed from plants which had the largest calyces, so its calyces are much larger than the ordinary varieties." (Wester.)

JASMINUM SP. 26766. From hills near Sebastopol, Crimea, Russia. "A jasmine found on stony mountain sides in somewhat shady places. May prove of value as a small ornamental garden shrub in mild-wintered, semi-arid regions." (Meyer's introduction.) For distribution later.

LATHYRUS SATIVUS. 26612. From Central Russia. Procured by Mr. Meyer from Mr. Engel of E. Immer & Son, Moscow. "Mr. Engle claims that this plant yields 500-600 pood per hectare and will grow in soil where peas will not thrive. He strongly recommends making a test of it in the Middle West and says the Russian farmers of certain districts in Central Russia consider it a favorite cattle fodder." (Meyer) ('The figures probably should be 50-60 pood per hectare, which is 13-15 bushels per acre.' Fairchild.)

LIGUSTRUM SP. 26767. From hills near Sebastopol, Crimea. "A low, bushy, semi-evergreen privet growing on dry, rocky mountain sides in somewhat shady places. Of use as a garden shrub in semi-arid regions." (Meyer's introduction.) For distribution later.

LUCUMA. 26768. From Mayaguez, Porto Rico. Presented by Mr. W. E. Hess. "Fruit 1½ to 2 inches long and wide. The pulp eatable, texture and color strongly suggesting the yolk of hard boiled egg. Should be valuable as an ornamental and avenue tree for South Florida and California. It might also prove a vigorous stock for Lucuma rivicoa, var. angustifolia; the fruit of this species is very delicious but it seems to be a very slow grower." (Hess.) For distribution later.

MORUS. 26761. From Estate of Maximoff, near Sebastopol, Crimea, Russia. "A handsome fastigiate form of the Russian mulberry resistant to drought and heat, suitable for an ornamental garden and park tree, especially in the semi-arid, hot-summered regions of the United States." (Meyer's introduction.) For distribution later.

NEPHELIUM SP. 26658. Seeds from Medan, Sumatra, presented by Dr. L. R. de Bussy.

NOPALEA COCCINELLIFERA. 26611. Presented by Mr. R.W. Thornton, Cape Town, South Africa. "No record can be found as to where this variety was originally imported from, but of the 26 varieties grown in Cape Colony this is the most nutritious and is free from thorns. A strong point in its favor is that up to the present the fruit has never matured, which makes it impossible for it to cross with our thorny varieties and thus spread and become a pest instead of a blessing. It also seems to be almost entirely free of the acid principle which causes excessive scouring in stock; hence the local name of sweet-flesh prickly pear." (Thornton.)

OLEA. 26801. From Nikita, Crimea, Russia. Cuttings from a very large olive tree several centuries old, growing in the Imperial Botanical Garden at Nikita and bearing large fruits. This and the following numbers (26802-811) are cuttings of olive trees that have withstood temperatures of 15° below zero R (2° below zero F) unhurt when other olives were frozen to the ground. They can therefore be recommended for South Texas and the interior valleys of California where there are heavy frosts occasionally. 26802-811. The same remarks apply to these as to the preceding numbers except that they were cut from trees between 60 and 70 years of age. Each number is a different variety but they have not been named by the Russians. (Meyer's introductions.)

POPULUS. 26613-614. From Lesnoi Forestry Institute near St. Petersburg, Russia. Both hardy around St. Petersburg and to be recommended for cold climates. 26613, a pyramidal form introduced from Turkestan; 26614, a form of the so-called Berlin poplar, but is proving much hardier than the type. POPULUS SP. 26812. From Orianda, Crimea, Russia. A remarkably tall and pyramidal poplar with whitish trunk; to be recommended for regions with hot, dry summers, followed by fairly mild winters. (Meyer's introduction.)

PRUNUS SIBIRICA. 26648-649. Seeds and cuttings from Steglitz, near Berlin. Presented by Mr. F. Ledier. "This has a future as a hardy ornamental shrub or small tree in our northern states." (Meyer's introduction.)

PUNICA GRANATUM. 26794-797. Four varieties of pomegranates from Hwai Yuan, China. Presented by Dr. Samuel Cochran. "It is said that the Hwai Yuan pomegranates are the best in China and I think it is very likely true. I believe they are sent from here for the Emperor's use." (Cochran.) For distribution later.

PYRUS. 26763. From hills near Sebastopol, Crimea, Russia. "A wild pear growing on exposed, stony mountain-sides and in cliffs and gullies; probably of value as a stock for pears in semi-arid, hot-summered regions, especially in the South-west." (Meyer's introduction.) 26764. A very compact-growing, round-headed variety of the preceding number.

RIBES. 26617. From Lesnoi Forestry Institute near St. Petersburg. "A large-fruited, very hardy species of red currant from the Altai Mountains, Turkestan; much hardier than the common red currants. May be used to improve them and extend their area of cultivation northwards." (Meyer's introduction.)

ROSA. 26618. From Lesnoi Forestry Institute near St. Petersburg. A semi-double form with rose-red flowers. Extremely floriferous; perfectly hardy in the severe climate of St. Petersburg, and one of the most satisfactory garden roses there." (Meyer's introduction.) For distribution later.

ROSA SPP. 26791-792. Presented by Mr. Sydney Hockridge, Redlands, Cal. 26791, Cherokee. 26792, variety Anemone. The European pink hybrid, a rare and beautiful variety.

SALIX. 26615-616. From Lesnoi Forestry Institute near St. Petersburg. Both these willows are much hardier and stronger in St. Petersburg than the European forms of Salix viminalis. Recommended for cold climates. No. 26615 from Siberia and 26616 from Altai Mts., Central Asia. SALIX, 26762. From Estate of Maximoff, near Sebastopol, Crimea, Russia. "A variety of willow with very pliable, golden yellow branches, used for tying. For semi-arid, hot-summered regions. (Meyer's introduction.) For distribution later.

STIZOLOBIUM SP. 26787. From Medan, Sumatra. Presented by Dr. L. R. de Bussy. "Seed gray, mottled with brown; perhaps identical with No. 24657 from Java." (Piper.) For distribution later. Nos. 26663-665 are also three varieties of Stizolobium from Dr. de Bussy.

VIGNA UNGUICULATA. 26660-662. Three varieties of cowpea from Medan, Sumatra; presented by Dr. L. R. de Bussy.

NOTES FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

ARABIA, Maskat. John A. Ray, Jan. 19. Sends two packages of dates of the Panj Ghur variety.

BRAZIL, Sao Paulo. Alberto Lofgren, Jan. 10. Is going to take a trip thru the northern states of Brazil to study dry land agriculture. Will cross a region almost unknown botanically and offers to send us samples of seeds or plants.

INDIA, Nagpur. J. W. Mollison, Jan. 18. Sends seeds of wild peach (Aru), nectarine (Munda aru) and Pyrus variolosa. (Shegal.)

INDIA, Sibpur, Calcutta. Superintendent Royal Botanical Garden, Jan. 19. Sends seed of Phyllanthus emblica.

JAVA, Lawang. M. Buysman, Dec. 23. Is sending 4 plants of Dahlia coccinea.

KOREA, Unsan. J. D. Hubbard, Jan. 12. Sends seeds of a cotton grown north of the 40th parallel, probably the hardiest cotton in existence. Thinks it will grow in the most northern of our own states. Also sends seeds of the Guar-ree plant, a beautiful ornamental bush two feet high covered with red pods; the fruit inside the pod is much relished by the Korean singing and dancing girls. They claim it improves the voice.

MEXICO, La Paz. Mary Sullivan, Jan. 3. Sends samples of fruit from the Cualte Comate tree. The Indians believe that this fruit filled with mescal and taken will cure pulmonary trouble.

RECENT VISITORS.

ENGLAND. Mr. Henry S. Wellcome, Whitehall Court, London; until March 1, 1910, care of Harmon, Guayaquil, Ecuador. The wealthy American-London druggist, the proprietor of the Wellcome Research Laboratory of Khartoum, Egypt. He is very much interested in plant introduction, particularly of drug plants. Expects to visit in Mr. Harmon's yacht the west coast of South America and penetrate into the interior. Says the British Consul, Mr. Soederstrom at Quito is a remarkable naturalist and from him we can get information regarding the wild species of Solanum. Mr. Wellcome's explorations in Ecuador, Peru and Columbia lead him to think that the best

center for exploration so far as wild potatoes are concerned would be Quito. He offers to pick up any information he can regarding the relatives of the potato.

NEW YORK. Jokichi Takamine, 334 Riverside Drive. He is interested in the introduction of Japanese flowering cherries. He expects to import a quantity of young trees for the Riverside Drive.

NEW YORK. Mr. Joseph Reichardt of the Reichardt Asiatic Trading Co., one of the largest wool exporters in Central Asia, having agencies in Bokhare, Tashkent, Samarkand, Urga and other places. He is much interested in the Bokhara winter muskmelons. Expects to leave for Central Asia this spring. He offers to secure anything desired from that region.